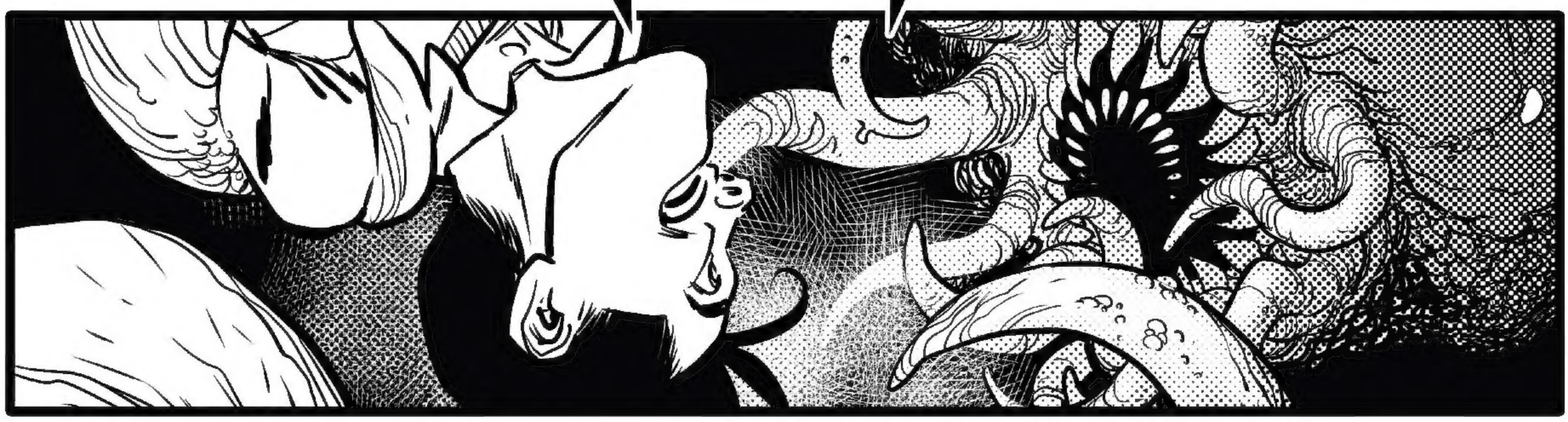
MARVEL

NOVA

#5

LOVENESS • PÉREZ • HERRING

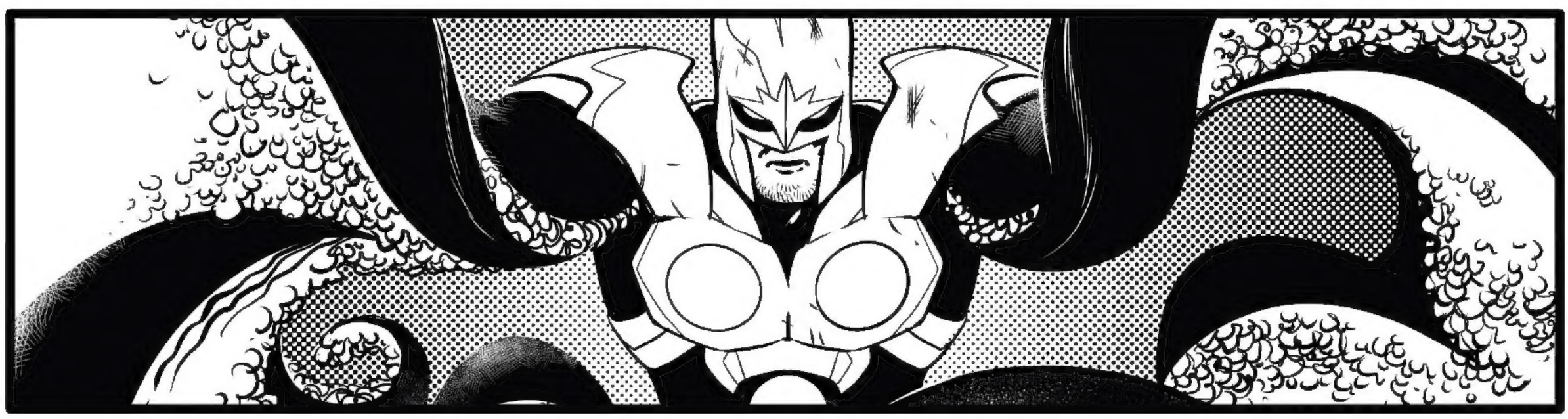
NOVA



AFTER BEING MURDERED BY THANOS IN A PARALLEL DIMENSION CALLED THE CANCERVERSE, RICHARD RIDER, HERO OF THE INTERGALACTIC NOVA CORPS, HAS MYSTERIOUSLY COME BACK FROM THE DEAD.

RICH CAME HOME TO EARTH AND WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT 15-YEAR-OLD SAM ALEXANDER HAS BEEN OPERATING AS NOVA, SAVING THE WORLD WITH THE TEENAGED SUPER-TEAM CALLED THE CHAMPIONS! TOGETHER, SAM AND RICH HAVE BEEN LEARNING HOW TO COEXIST AS NOVAS AND WORK AS A TEAM.

DESPITE SAM'S HELP, RICH IS HAVING DIFFICULTY READJUSTING TO LIFE ON EARTH. HE ALSO HASN'T BEEN COMPLETELY HONEST WITH SAM -- SOMETHING CAME BACK FROM THE CANCERVERSE WITH HIM, SOMETHING POWERFUL AND HARD TO CONTROL. WHEN SAM RETURNED HOME FROM HIS FIRST DATE WITH THE NEW GIRL AT SCHOOL, HE FOUND HIS GARAGE DESTROYED AND HIS SISTER MISSING, UNAWARE THAT IT WAS RICH'S SECRET THAT PUT HIS FAMILY IN DANGER...



Writers
JEFF LOVENESS & RAMÓN PÉREZ

Artist
RAMÓN PÉREZ

Color Artist
IAN HERRING

Letterer
COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE

Cover Artist
RAMÓN PÉREZ

Assistant Editor
ALLISON STOCK

Editor
DEVIN LEWIS

Executive Editor
NICK LOWE

Editor in Chief
AXEL ALONSO

Chief Creative Officer
JOE QUESADA

President
DAN BUCKLEY

Executive Producer
ALAN FINE

© 2017 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM

KAELYNN!

KAELYNN, WHERE ARE YOU?

¿Mamá, que pasó aquí?

Oh no...

SNATCH

Uurgk!

KAELYNN!

BROTHER?! HELP!!

CRAP! Where'd I leave my helmet?

HSSSS!

SKREEE.

WHAK

I don't know what you are...

...but get the @$%# away from my kids!!!

Whoa. Go Mom.

CHOP

CHOP

CHOP

SLICE

¡DEMONIO!

Whoa.

Go Abuelita.

Sammy! What is that thing? How'd it get here?

I don't know!

Kaelynn! Are you okay?

Mommy, I'm scared!

We're coming, baby! Don't move!

CRAP! Where'd I leave it?

WHEREISIT? WHEREISIT? WHEREISIT?

YES!

Don't worry, Kae! Gonna get you out. Just be brave for me, okay? You still got that cape on?

Yeah.

Good! It makes you braver!

Mom! I need you to get Abuelita somewhere safe. I can *handle* this thing. Okay?

NO. That creature has my daughter! I--

--And it has my *sister.* Let me. *Please.*

Sam...

...go kick its ass.

Will do.

So you're after the Nova Force, huh?

ZASH

Then *take it!*

KRAK

...Oh, flark, I'm so stupid.

KRAK

Hang on, Kaelynn. I'm-- AAUURGGH!

Mommy! Sam needs help!

KRAK

No! Urrgh! Stay back!

I've got some.

Rich? How'd you know I was--

You wanna talk or you wanna punch the monster?

Punch the monster. *Definitely* punch the monster.

VASH...

UGH! I can't scratch it!

VRAK

Keep your head, kid! We've fought this thing before. *Remember.* Keep the pressure on. Get it off-balance.

Rich! Look out!

Heh. Why are these things always after you?

Wait...

...Why *are* these things-- *HUURRRK!*

SAM!

Hold on, kid, I'm coming!

I'm...

AUUURRGH!

RICH?!

What... what's going on?!

I've got this thing distracted, kid. Now, fly in and get your sister!

It's feeding off our helmets and absorbing our hits from the outside! Grab her and blast it from the inside!

GOTCHA!

HHUAARGH!

What are you doing?

Sending it back!

Back *where?*

Kae-Kae! Are you okay?

Mom... stay back.

What haven't you told me?

What *are* you?

I...

I don't know.

I'm *me.*

I'm still me.

But something's...

Something came back *with* me.

Inside.

And I can't get it out.

So when we first met...

...that monster...

You knew.

...Yes.

You've been lying to me the whole time.

Sam...

And that thing--

That *thing* that almost killed my mom and sister.

It came because of *YOU!*

Sam... I didn't know it would--

YOU LIED!
I BROUGHT YOU INTO MY HOME!
AND YOU LIED ABOUT EVERYTHING!
WHY DOES EVERYONE LIE TO ME?!

Sammy! Stop! That's enough.

He did this! He almost got you all killed!

I'm sorry.

I'm so sorry.

I didn't want to hurt anyone.

I just wanted to come home...

...I wanted to come home so bad.

I thought... maybe I earned it.

But that's not how it works.

I didn't earn anything.

I cheated.

KO!

I thought I could escape the Cancerverse...

...but it followed me back.

What... what do we do?

No. *We* don't do *anything.* You keep your family safe. This is all my fault.

As long as I'm here, they'll keep coming. I'm the door.

And I'm gonna slam it shut.

No.

Rich. Wait. There's got to be another way.

Kid.

Sam.

This is on *me.*

Years ago, I had a tough call to make, so I asked myself...

...do I put myself first? Maybe live a few more days that don't matter, and let the universe down? Or do I step up?

Sorry it took me so long.

Rich! Stop! We'll figure something out. I'll get help! I'll call the Avengers, the Champions, anyone!

There's no time, kid. This is on me.

Novas always gotta step up.

Now it's your turn!

Is he gone?

Yeah... he's gone. He saved us.

Where did he go?

"I don't even want to think about it."

WHUMP

All right, you bastards.

I'm here. Let's go.

Welcome back, Richard. You've been gone a long time.

Wait.

I know that voice... How?

Look around. Things have changed since you left me, Richard.

Many things have changed.

Worldmind?

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT:

NOVA

ZONE